[English]

Wakf Board

3560. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have enacted an Act by virtue of which all the committees/relating to the Delhi Wakf Board have ceased to exist;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Act has come into force;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the Act is likely to come into force?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have enacted the Wakf Act, 1995. Section 112 of the said Act provides that the Wakf Act, 1954 and the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1984 as also any law which correspond to this Act in a State stand repealed with the enforcement of the Central Act of 1995. According to the advice tendered by the Ministry of law, with the enforcement of the Wakf Act, 1995, the Bodies including the State Wakf Boards, constituted and established under the Wakf Act, 1954, or State Wakf laws, shall stand dissolved.

(c) The Wakf Act, 1995 has been enforced in the country (except the State of Jammu and Kashmir to which it does not extend) with effect from 01.01.1996.

(d) and (e). Do not. arise.

[Translation]

Legislation to Curb/End Casteism

3561. SHRI GANGS CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the States where Caste riots occurred due to increasing casteism in the country;

(b) whether the Government would take steps to end casteism;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to enact legislation with a view to end casteism by preventing people to use their surname as prefix or suffix;

(d) if so, the time by which the Government propose to introduce this Bill; and

(e) whether the Government intend to issue ordinance to ban the use of surname by the top bureaucrats?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Various provisions already exist under law's such as the Protection of Civil Rights Act and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act to check and deter certain offences arising out of casteism. Measures such as incentives provided in several States for inter-caste marriage, which are supported by Central Assistance, also encourage individual and societal efforts to overcome caste distinctions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

Chandpur Reform Home

3562. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to starvation one hundred inmates of Chandpur Reform Home of Bijnam district ran away by breaking window of the home;

(b) whether the police personnels were taking rest at the time whe these prisoners ran away; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Transferring of Wakf Properties

3563. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received regarding the illegal transfer and corrupt practice in handing over the Wakf properties; and

(b) if so, details of the action taken to save these properties State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Drug Policy

3564. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a comprehensive drug policy for augmenting production of drugs including essential drugs on a massive scale through heavy investment both by the domestic/private sector and multinational companies to meet our requirements and also for the exports;

(b) if so, the details of the redeeming features of the new Drug Policy with particular reference to foreign direct investment by new companies and expanding operations of the multinational drug units;

(c) The detail regarding FDI proposals received and cleared from the multinational companies during the last five years and number of proposals pending out of them with the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of the Government to the proposals of MNCs to set up 100% subsidiaries not manufacturing drug from basic stage vis-a-vis policy guidelines under the industrial policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Drug Policy, 1986 was modified taking into consideration the prevailing economic scenario vide "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986" in September, 1994 (a copy of which was laid on the Table of the House) to make environment conducive to investment in pharmaceutical sector of industry.

(c) To the extent details are available 13 (thirteen) Foreign Direct Investment proposal from multinational companies (100% subsidiaries) were approved by the Government as per the provisions of the "Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986" announced in September, 1994. as on date, no such type of proposal is pending with this Deportment.

(d) Proposals for setting up of 100% foreign equity holding companies are dealt with in accordance with the "Modifications in Drug Policy 1986, which lay down as follow:

> "Investment above 51 per cent will be considered on a case by case basis in areas where investment is otherwise not forth coming, particularly in the manufacture of bulk drugs from basic stages and their intermediates, and bulk drugs produced by the use of recombinant DNA technology as well as the specific cell/tissue targeted formulations.

Release of ISI Agents

3565. SHRI T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian intelligence agencies have showing concern on the release of two ISI agents by the Nepalese Police;

(b) whether these agents had any link with the Kashmir militants;

(c) whether there is a report that the two ISI agents and five Arghan mercenaries have entered into India; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to arrest them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). Government is aware of certain developments in this regard. However, it will not be advisable in public interest to disclose any further information on the subject. All reports pertaining to these developments have been promptly disseminated to the concerned departments/ Agencies for further necessary action.

Enforcement of Sixth Schedule

3566. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to enforce Sixy Schedule of the Constitution in contiguous areas where the tribals are in majority;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) whether any State Government have sent proposals for the enforcement of the Sixth Schedule in their respective States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MODH. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Forest Cover

3567. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether army has already cleared the ridge in Delhi for polo-ground and is ahead with clearing at further for three more polo-grounds;

(b) if so, whether the forest cover on the ridge is considered as the green lungs of the Capital; and

(c) if so, the steps taken and are being taken to restore the damage done to the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has informed that the army has not made any clearance in the notified ridge area.

(b) The forest cover on the ridge area has been considered as the green lungs of capital.

(c) Steps have been taken by the Delhi Government to declare ridge as reserved forest under Indian Forest Act, 1927 for protection and development. The action is also being taken by Delhi Government for fencing of the ridge and eviction on encroachments.